

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Summary of Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 is currently amended.

Claim 2 is original.

Claim 3 is previously canceled.

Claim 4 is previously presented.

Claims 5 – 13 are original.

Claims 14 – 21 are previously canceled.

Claims 22 – 23 are canceled without prejudice.

Claim 24 is currently amended.

Claims 25 – 26 are canceled without prejudice.

Claim 1.

Claim 23 was held allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 23 and all of the limitations of the base claim 1 and the intervening claim. Therefore, Applicant believes the claim is in condition for allowance.

Claims 2 & 5-13.

Claims 2 and 5-13 are original and dependent upon allowable independent claim 1 (as amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 23 and intervening claim). In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988). MPEP 2143.03.

Claims 22 & 23.

Claims 22 & 23 are canceled without prejudice. Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 23 and all of the limitations of the base claim 1 and the intervening claim 22.

Claim 24.

Claim 26 was held allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 24 is amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 26 and all of the limitations of the base claim 24 and the intervening claim. Therefore, Applicant believes the claim is in condition for allowance.

Claims 25 & 26.

Claims 25 & 26 are canceled without prejudice. Claim 24 is amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 26 and all of the limitations of the base claim 24 and the intervening claim 25.

Summary.

In view of the amendments, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objections and rejections.

For all the above reasons, Applicant submits that the claims are now in proper form for allowance and that the claims all define patentably over the prior art. Therefore applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance and favorable action on the merits of this case is respectfully requested.

Two independent and thirteen total claims remain in the application. Applicant therefore believes no fees for claims are due.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 01-2511 for any fees associated with this application, and to charge any additional filing fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2511.

Respectfully Submitted,



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